October 23, 1962

Mary and Winston Cruzan

I would like very much to borrow the coins on the attached schedule which I believe you still own. I wanted to wait until my vacation was over and I hope it will not be an inconvenience to you.

If you have in mind selling some of the coins I sincerely recommend the disposition of the $3 gold pieces. These are tremendously overpriced at the present time, in my opinion, and you have a group of them. I, naturally, will be glad to give you thoughts on disposing of any coins you may wish to and, frankly, Arthur Kelley has been handling matters for others in a most satisfactory way. He is paying top prices and moving a lot of merchandise.

Our very best love to both of you.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

December 14, 1962

Col.and Mrs. Winston Cruzan

[redacted]

Dear Mary and Winston,

Happy Holidays to both of you. I am glad you have a sense of humor after your Miami visit during the Cuban crisis. The real truth is that Castro heard you were in Florida and wanted to yield for fear he would have his teeth pulled. The only disturbance here was that Lambert Field was blessed with a few heavy bombers which are still there. Our cook piled some earth in front of our basement window so that we could hole up.

Great excitement has come into our life. We signed up to go to Mongolia next summer. This sounds like the most romantic spot left on earth where we can eat yogurt and sheep intestines stuffed with dry blood. Our travel agent, in New York, who was recommended to us by Art Buchwald, seems to be the one who can arrange this sort of thing and we, being loyal customers, are going to take advantage of it. Art Buchwald was in town and told the following French joke.... A couple were caught commiting an indiscretion in the Bois de Boulogne in a Renault 4CV. The defense lawyers pleaded impossibility. The Parisian Court, in order to administer justice, appointed a commission to advise him on the matter. The commission's report was "possible but very difficult and most unsatisfactory".

During Thanksgiving weekend we went up to Boston to see our relatives and children and what-have-you. At the Harvard-Yale game we witnessed something spectacularly American. It was announced that President Kennedy, who planned to attend the game, had cancelled his visit because of bad weather. There was a tumultous cheer - louder than any cheer during the football game.

December 14, 1962

Col. and Mrs.Winston Cruzan

I hope that you are no longer under restriction and can wander around North Carolina. Your house sounds asthough it is big enough to have a lot of fun.

The box of coins arrived and I am studying them.

I presume you got the book I wrote this Fall.

I am now involved in a morals education campaign and I know I am wasting my time. There are so many fakes being sold that people are collecting rare fakes as distinguished from common fakes and all I want to do is to stop the sale of fakes altogether.

Evelyn is launching a tremendous new store at Barnes Hospital. It is a city within itself and she is getting ready to carry flowers, drugs, and junque. It will be big enough so that you can come in, wander around on a serve yourself basis, with several volunteers urging you to buy, and eventually checking out through a turnstyle.

As I told you, I think it is a good time to sell some of your coins. I had mentioned, for example, the $3 gold pieces. They are bringing prices based on their novelty rather than their scarcity. I think you can get an average of at least $125 each for the group. If you feel like sending them to me I will see how well I can do with them and will advise you before I take action. If that works out well I will give you some thoughts on other ones. I do want you to know that I will give Art Kelley an opportunity to buy these and plan not to disclose the identity of the seller.

There are some other coins which will have crazy prices too. A 1794 half dollar, in very good condition, is offered for sale at $250 and a very fine one, of which you have one, is offered at $675.00.

The 1795 half dollars will likewise be five to ten times the values on your list.

December 14, 1962

Col. and Mrs. Winston Cruzan

[redacted]

Dear Mary and Winston,

Happy Holidays to both of you. I am glad you have a sense of humor after your Miami visit during the Cuban crisis. The real truth is that Castro heard you were in Florida and wanted to yield for fear he would have his teeth pulled. The only disturbance here was that Lambert Field was blessed with a few heavy bombers which are still there. Our cook piled some earth in front of our basement window so that we could hole up.

[redacted]

March 4, 1963

Dear Mary,

I am ready to return most of the coins you sent me and have one extremely interesting situation to advise you of.

One of the coins is an 1834 U.S.half dime in proof condition. Its cost is 50¢ and its list price at which it did not sell was $7.50.

It so happens that an 1834 proof set was presented to the King of Siam. That set showed up last year. It is missing two coins and one is an 1834 proof half dime. The owner of the set, who is represented by David F. Spink, of Spink & Son, of London, wants to acquire the piece to put into the set. Naturally, this is not the one from the set as there were plenty of proofs made but I can get you a real fancy price for this coin, in my opinion. I would ask no less than $150.00 and no more than $500 and I leave it up to you if you want to have me present a price to him. I would be guided by whatever you say.

As to sending back the bulk of the coins, would you be nice enough to write me whether you want them sent to your home, or how you wish this handled.

Best wishes to both of you,

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

Mrs.Winston Cruzan

[redacted]

EPN/atb

Just how much persuasion is it going to take to get you all to break down and come to visit us? We would certainly love to have you. I'm afraid we can't find any GOOD French restaurants around here - or any GOOD German wine - but, at least, we won't subject you to hush puppies!

Winston joins me in sending our best love to you both always,

Mary

Still a lousy Typist!

December 14, 1962

My thought is that on selling off some of the material you could invest the money and do much better with it now. I believe you could sell it off in such a way as to make a capital gain,rather than have ordinary income,by merely selling one large group and then waiting a reasonable interval before selling another.

[redacted]

Evelyn joins me in sending you and Winston our very best and we hope you do not acquire a Southern accent from eating too many hushpuppies.

Sincerely,

ERIC P.NEWMAN

April 15, 1963

Dear Mary,

Our children were just home for Spring vacation and they must be a little nutty; they decided to drive, together, through Europe, the early part of this summer, each warning the other they would walk out if the other did not improve certain of his habits. With the thought of them living in our camper, I am wondering how this will turn out.

Linda just wrote that this weekend she had some visitors for the Easter Holiday and had to entertain them. She, therefore, remembered our description of your taking us through Valley Forge, etc. I presume, therefore, they were well entertained, including being driven through "Intercourse, Pennsylvania".

I offered the 1834 Half Dime to David Spink for $250 but it was turned down. I have no idea what he added on to it in order to sell it but I will write him again and ask him to submit an offer to us. My wild ideas did not bear fruit as I thought they would.

I would like to send back most of the things which you sent me at your convenience and will await the green light. In the meantime, I believe if you send me the $3 gold pieces it is a good time to sell them so suit yourself in this regard.

On Easter, Evelyn and I drove to Calhoun County, Illinois to look at the apple blossoms. There was only one difficulty. The apple trees were not blossoming. They told us that by next Sunday the apple blossoms would be gone and that we should try to come up about Wednesday, if the sun was out on Monday and Tuesday, and there was no wind or rain. I thanked them profusely and told them that I felt I should find an apple tree at home.

Next week Evelyn's shop at the Barnes Hospital opens. She was complaining about the markup on magazines being so small. I suggested that as the patients died or left the hospital that the magazines be gathered up and resold and she would have a 100% markup on those items. This was not readily approved.

Love from both of us to both of you,

EPNewman/atb

MRS. WINSTON V. CRUZAN

[redacted]

March 11th

Dear Eric:

Anyone who can study the price of a coin up from $7.50 to $500. strikes me as a damned good student. Just makes me wonder why you do ANYTHING but study. Go ahead and sell it for as much as you can get. This sounds like fun. Also, if you still want to sell the $3. gold and a few others - let me know and I will box them up and send them to you.

As for the tax problem - I still have a letter from the internal revenoors dated January 5, 1951 saying that they had audited our 1949 return and that we had overpaid our tax because the sale of a coin collection was entered as ordinary gain instead of a capital asset. Since then I have always entered the sale of coins as capital gain and every one seems happy about the arrangement. Have kept the letter just in case some one should set up a howl sometime.

Our income tax is getting tobe more and more of a headache all the time. Not that that makes us very exclusive. Not owing money or paying taxes on a house leaves us with no choice but to take the $1000. flat deduction sowe get rapped pretty hard. In spite of that I agree with you that it would be wise to unload some of the stuff that is selling at unusual prices. And while on the subject have you any bright ideas as to how to invest the cash? And what do you think of all the hell raising about the mutual funds?

If you don't mind it might be a happy idea for you to keep the coins a while longer. Winston is supposed to go to San Antonio for some sort of course in how to run dental detachments (which would have been far more helpful if he had had it before trying to run the dental set-up for France). Anyway, he is to be there from March 31st through April 13th so I am going to tag along. We also hope to get leave - if possible - before the course and visit the folks while we are that far west. If that works out we will leave here the 22nd. Ordinarily our neighbors would be happy to take care of the package but they are leaving before we do - transferring to Fort Lewis. If you can get the coins here - at the house - before the 22nd O.K., otherwise it might be better to send them after April 13th.

Frankly I can't say that yogurt and sheep intestines stuffed with dried blood would tickle my taste buds, but other than that the junket to Mongolia sounds like quite an experience. Just wish we could be going with you.

Am sorry to say that we didn't get the book you wrote last fall.

May 15, 1963

Mrs. Winston Cruzan

The pieces which I am retaining are as follows:

1834 Half Dime proof, which I still hope to sell to Spink.

1788 Massachusetts cent, Crosby 1-D, of which you have two.

1788 Massachusetts Cent, 11-F

1788 Massachusetts Cent, 7-M

1805 U. S. Quarter Dollar, Browning 4

1849 over 48 Half Dime

If we could work out a fair basis I would certainly like to acquire these.

Whenever you want to send the $3.00 pieces would be okay.

My kindest regards to you and Winston.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

Mrs. Winston V. Cruzan

[redacted]

April 29th

Dear Evelyn and Eric:

Our junket to Oklahoma and Texas turned out to be quite hectic. Getting out of thebackwoods was no small problem - it took three different air lines to get us from here to Oklahoma City. Had a nice visit with the family and then took off for San Antonio.

[redacted]

I only stayed a couple of days after the operation and made it back to San Antonio just in time to fly back here with Winston as planned. Now I guess we will stay put for a while.

Send the coins any time you like - to the house - and I will box up the $3.00 and send them to you in the next few days. Better yet - why don't you all just bring the first batch back and pick up thesecond? That would liven things up aroundhere no little! No little French Inns - just the Cruzan Hotel.

Mrs. Winston V. Cruzan

[redacted]

Would it be tempting if I told you that while in San Antonio I learned how to make green enchiladas - which <u>really</u> taste better than they sound?

Our love to you both always,

Mary

May 15, 1963

Mrs. Winston Cruzan
[redacted]

Dear Mary:

I am sending off the coins which you were nice enough to send me for study with the exceptions hereafter noted. I certainly would prefer bringing them up myself but we plan a little celebration. [redacted]

[redacted]

I want to tell you that there w as a question in BGJ's mind of thegenuineness of the New York piece in silver which is being returned to you. There are only two specimens in silver that are known and this is one of them. However,Bolen might have had his hand in this.